



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

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## ***RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR***

**SIOUX FALLS, June 20, 2008 -- Commercial red meat production** for South Dakota totaled 75.3 million pounds during May. This was down 4 percent from one year ago and down 16 percent from last month. For May, pork production and sheep and lamb production were down from one year ago, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Commercial hog slaughter** for South Dakota totaled 341,500 head during May compared to 363,800 head the year before. Average live weight was 255 pounds, unchanged from May 2007.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** for South Dakota totaled 200 head during May compared to 1,700 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 115 pounds, which was down 24 pounds from May 2007.

**Commercial slaughter data for cattle** are not published.

*Access this complete report at:*

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2008/LiveSlau-06-20-2008.pdf>